

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0781

UNCLAS ROME 6027

AFDROUGHT

SUBJECT: FUMIGATION OF CEREALS IN MAURITANIA, MALI, UPPER VOLTA
AND DAKAR FREE ZONE

1. OSRO ADVISES: QUOTE OSRO CONTINUES TO SUPPORT FUMIGATION OF CEREALS STORAGE THROUGH PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PAYMENT OF LOCAL CONTRACTORS UNDER SUPERVISION. FUNDS COMMITTED TO DATE IN SUBJECT COUNTRIES ARE DLR 230,000.
2. WE BELIEVE PROGRAM IS JUSTIFIED TO PROTECT FOOD SUPPLIES AND DONORS INTERESTS AND IS HAVING BENEFICIAL RESULTS ON IMPROVING STORAGE CONDITIONS IN GENERAL AND FOCUSING GOVERNMENTS ATTENTION ON RELATED PROBLEMS AND NEED TO PREPOSITION STOCKS BEFORE RAINS.
3. IT APPEARS THAT THE PROGRAM MAY HAVE TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE RAINS AND IS ALREADY CALLING FOR INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS SUCH AS BUTYL RUBBER SOLOS AND NEW SACKS AND TARPULINS.
4. OSRO FUNDS WILL NOT PERMIT CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAM UNLESS WE HAVE ASSURANCE OF FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS. WE HAVE SOME SUPPORT FROM OTHERS DOORS BUT NOTHING PLEDGED AS YET. WE NOTE USAID FINANCING FURTHER WORK ROSSO AND VERY GRATEFUL. MAY WE RELY ON USAID TO REIMBURSE COSTS INCURRED UP TO DLR 250,000 AS CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL FUMIGATION AND STORAGE ASSISTANCE TO SAHEL? GRATEFUL YOUR EARLY DECISION SINCE I WILL BE VISITING COUNTRIES CONCERNED STARTING 1 MAY FOR FOUR WEEKS.BEAUDRY

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